



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



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STATE POLICE DIVE TEAM TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE CCMC

Would you ride a bicycle underwater for 2003.5 miles? Members of the Connecticut State Police Emergency Services Dive Team did just that, in a fund raising effort for the *Connecticut Children's Medical Center* last year during The Big "E" Eastern States Exposition. They were able to raise \$5,700 in their efforts! Troopers did this as they logged a total of 2003.5 underwater miles on a stationary exercise bicycle.

For several years the Connecticut State Police Dive Team exhibit has been one of the favorite stops for visitors to the Eastern States Fair. The Eastern States Fair is New England's largest outdoor fair, and annual attendance regularly exceeds one million people. In the past, State Police Divers have conducted underwater diving demonstrations to educate the crowds on the vital role that the Connecticut State Police Emergency Services Dive Team plays in search, rescue and recovery efforts across the state.

This year, TFC. David Brundage (Team Dive Master), and his team of divers has set a new goal and will strive to exceed last year's total miles and total money raised. These elite divers will be able to communicate with visitors to the display via an underwater communication system and breathing apparatus, while getting in a long underwater aerobic workout!

For seventeen days and nights, State Police Divers will ride an incline bicycle underwater in a 2,900-gallon dive-training tank. The Schwinn Fitness Group, through the Omni Fitness Center in Orange, CT has generously donated the stationary bicycle to be used in this fund raising event. As divers log their underwater miles, the public will be able to utilize a surface-to-diver radio system to communicate words of encouragement. As the crowds gather to watch this feat, CCMC staff members headed by Robin M. Vidito will accept charitable donations for the Dive Teams hard work. This event has not only proved to be a great training event, it has also been educational and has entertained visitors to the Big "E," while raising much needed funds for vital treatment of injured and ill children in the care of one of the nations leading pediatric hospitals.

The State Police Dive Team and CCMC staff would like to thank everyone who has donated in the past and welcomes everyone to help us reach our goal and surpass last year!

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